



BALI-MBA DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

FALL 2021 UPDATE

Pastors sing together at the Mba dedication of the book of Luke.



STORIES OF IMPACT

God's Word Brings Peace

In one Mba region, there are land conflicts between eight villages. Recently, these villages turned to the president of the Mba Bible translation committee to help them peacefully resolve their conflicts. During this meeting, the villagers decided to withdraw their complaints. All parties agreed not to resort to violence!

In the Bali-speaking Christian communities, one denomination split, creating rifts. Yet both sides came together through Bible translation, testing the translated texts for naturalness and accuracy.

This shows a level of trust that many Mba and Bali speakers have in the Bible translation committee and the Scriptures. They are allowing the Word of God to bring peace among them.

Scripture in Bali Brings Joy

After hearing 1 & 2 Timothy and Titus in Bali, people stood up and shouted for joy! They said that these sections spoke much more clearly to them than the Swahili they often hear. Many were particularly moved by 1 Timothy 3:1-7.

Many Bali believers are passionate about God's Word. Pastors and priests regularly contact the translation team, asking for newly translated passages.

Please pray for the team's safety

Conflict in certain regions, banditry, impassable roads, and Covid curfews are causing serious trauma. Driving has become too dangerous, as people are being killed on the roads that connect the Bali with major cities.



Recent Highlights (In The Past Six Months)

- Translated Hebrews, James and one hymn into Bali, and translated sections of Matthew and Acts into Mba.
- Worked on dubbing the "JESUS" film in Mba.
- Held one Bali literacy course, and one class for children.
- Revised and printed 250 copies of Bali literacy material.
- Began goat-breeding fundraiser, a prayer service, and other local fundraising efforts.
- Continued developing the Bali dictionary, which currently has about 2,000 entries. Grammar analysis is also progressing well.
- Used local funds from the cultivation of cocoa and corn to support the Mba project.



Upcoming Goals

- Draft 1 Peter, 2 Peter, and Revelation in Bali. Check the book of Acts.
- Make a book of Bali Christian hymns available to churches, alongside audio recordings.
- Host at least 16 Bali literacy classes and train at least 100 people to read and write fluently.
- Revise and print another 250 copies of Bali literacy materials.
- Record the "JESUS" film in Mba.
- Translate sections of Matthew and Acts into Mba.
- Continue local awareness and fundraising efforts among church groups.



Pray with us

- That the Word of God would continue to overcome denominational boundaries in Bali.
- That the entire Bali community would catch the vision of supporting the work and take ownership.
- For the training and organization of a literacy team in Bali and that the literacy team in Mba can start again.
- For the protection of the Mba translators as they travel for consultant-checks and workshops in the coming months. Travel by vehicle is becoming unsafe.
- For relief for the Bali and Mba people.

Shei nya vugi ligi ndi nya, zuna dhwabha akwibhe nong i, ti kutu ta bhe kihinge vugi, ao zi ta bhe kitu vugi zili.

Matthew 6:20 (In Mba)

"But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal." Matthew 6:20 (NIV)